



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contacts:** Daria Consiglieri, (425) 673-3306  
Debbie Corn, (425) 673-3006

## **WorkSource Lynnwood Awarded \$23,000 to Provide Services to Job Seekers with Disabilities and Language Barriers**

LYNNWOOD – WorkSource Lynnwood was awarded \$23,000 by the Washington State Employment Security Department to provide special services to unemployment claimants with disabilities and English language barriers.

Daria Consiglieri and Debbie Corn, who together manage WorkSource Lynnwood, said the grant will pay for materials and activities to help WorkSource better assist job seekers who are blind, deaf, or not fluent in English.

“The grant will able us to reach unemployed people who need our services but have not always been effectively reached due to language and cultural barriers,” Consiglieri said. “We’re providing them with access to resources that will help them find and keep jobs in today’s competitive market.”

Consiglieri said WorkSource plans to use part of the money to put on a job fair May 29 at the center. Interpreters will be available to help serve job seekers who speak Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic, and American Sign Language. Translation services for other languages will be available on request. Consiglieri expects about 200 people and 30 employers to attend the fair.

The grants will also pay for interpreters and new informational materials in multiple languages to assist people with disabilities and low English literacy who visit WorkSource Lynnwood.

Finally, the money will be spent on an analysis to identify specific barriers, hiring trends, and service gaps that are hindering employment for those job seekers. The study will help identify additional marketing strategies to connect those unemployed workers with community resources to help them overcome those barriers, Corn said.

The \$6,000 allocated to WorkSource Lynnwood is part of a \$100,000 U.S. Department of Labor grant received by Employment Security to distribute to local programs that assist people in finding work.

WorkSource Lynnwood provides all the resources job seekers and employers need in one place. The center is located at 20311 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave. W. Suite 300. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call (425) 673-3300.

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